

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6552

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2002

SICK SEBS HAMPER POWER PLANTS .

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Sick SEBs hamper power plants` appearing in the Hindu dated March 13, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether due to poor financial health of SEBs, the pollution at various power plants have increased manifold;
- (c) if so, whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments propose to formulate a strategy to check pollution in power plants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The equipment required for improving the environmental conditions by controlling the dust emission level and effluents from thermal power plants through installation/augmentation of ESPs and ash handling systems and other measures is required to be properly maintained by the station authorities along with other plant & equipment for which adequate finances are required to be made available to them.

During the implementation of Phase-II R&M programme during the 8th Plan ,about Rs.280 crores was spent on environmental control measures. The environmental related works were also taken up along with other R&M works during the 9th Plan period.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have identified 141 thermal units (16853 MW) for taking up R&M/Life Extension works during the 10th Plan. While formulating the R&M schemes by State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/Power Utilities, it is being ensured that the activities relating to installation/ augmentation of ESPs, ash handling system and other pollution control measures are included in the schemes so as to meet the latest pollution control norms. The Government of India has attached high priority to the R&M programme for thermal power stations including the environmental related works. The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is providing financial assistance at concessional interest rates to SEBs/Power utilities for implementation of R&M schemes.